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CITY COUNCIL
HONOLULU, HAWAII

The Honorable Todd Apo, Chair and Members of the Honolulu City Council
City and County of Honolulu
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Chair and Council Members:

It gives me great pleasure to be writing this letter on behalf of Mr. Mike Nakasone whom I have known through my involvement with the nation's only full-time municipal band – *The Royal Hawaiian Band*. As an island musician for the past 60 years, I have seen many band masters show great promise early in their tenure. Mike has done that with a style that is unmistakable. He is one of the great bright spots in my professional singing career and I am very proud of him.

Musicians with the band are excellent arrangers and fine performers too, while Mike works well as a member of the team and consistently contributes to the band in a way that benefits all. He is very capable of understanding and personally dealing with locals and visitors, and he assumes his leadership with professionalism and charm. Mike has a unique way of looking at life, and shares that vision with others through his work ethics, insight, and sensitivity. His suggestions in rehearsals and in public performances are always directly helpful and well thought out. Mike is an extremely hard worker and dedicates himself to seeing a project through to its rightful conclusion.

Mike has been a delight to me as well as each member of *The Royal Hawaiian Band*. Please take very good care of him and the band members and appreciate them as much as I have. He is, simply, one of the nicest, most sincere, and most capable band master with whom you will have contact.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about Mike. He is worth my time and yours.

Warmest Aloha,

Charlotte Iwalani Kahalewai
Phone: 808-373-2501